

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested. After entry of the foregoing amendment, Claims 17-20, 22-26, 28-37, 39-40, 42-44, and 47-50 remain pending in the present application. No new matter has been added.

By way of summary, the Office Action presents the following issues: Claims 17-20, 22-26, 28-37, 39-40, and 42-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Thamattoor (U.S. Patent No. 6,658,595 B1) in view of Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,359,858 B1, hereinafter “Smith”).

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicant and Applicant’s representative wish to thank Examiner Blair for the courtesy of the personal interview granted on June 30, 2009. During the interview, amendments clarifying the claims over the applied references were discussed. Claim amendments reflecting some of the comments presented during the interview are included herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 17-20, 22-26, 28-37, 39-40, and 42-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Thamattoor in view of Smith. In light of this rejection, independent Claims 17 and 39 have been amended to clarify the claimed invention and to thereby more clearly patentably define over the applied references.

Independent Claim 17 recites a redundant routing system, including, in part, a first routing unit and a second routing unit, where “when said second routing unit detects said failure of said first routing unit, said second routing unit activates a reset algorithm stored in

said first routing unit . . . , and a memory address of the reset algorithm stored in said first routing unit is . . . included in said second routing unit.” Applicant respectfully submits that Thamattoor and Smith fail to disclose or suggest those features.

Thamattoor concerns a system for maintaining operability, in which “Where processing element B fails, processing element A may shut down processing element B and take other action, such as assume the functionality of processing element B.”¹

That is, Thamattoor merely describes shutting down one processing element with another processing element. Thamattoor does not describe the features of the reset algorithm recited in amended Claim 17.

It is respectfully submitted that Thamattoor fails to disclose or suggest that “when said second routing unit detects said failure of said first routing unit, said second routing unit activates a reset algorithm stored in said first routing unit . . . , and a memory address of the reset algorithm stored in said first routing unit is . . . included in said second routing unit,” as recited in independent Claim 17.

Smith concerns a method of switching redundancy control. Applicant respectfully submits that Smith is silent regarding a feature that “when said second routing unit detects said failure of said first routing unit, said second routing unit activates a reset algorithm stored in said first routing unit . . . , and a memory address of the reset algorithm stored in said first routing unit is . . . included in said second routing unit,” as recited in amended Claim 17.

Thus, Applicant submits that Thamattoor and Smith, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose that “when said second routing unit detects said failure of said first routing unit, said second routing unit activates a reset algorithm stored in said first routing unit . . . , and a memory address of the reset algorithm stored in said first routing unit is . . . included in

¹ Thamattoor, col. 4, ll. 37-40.

said second routing unit,” as recited in amended Claim 17. It is therefore submitted that independent Claim 17 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over any proper combination of Thamattoor and Smith.

Applicant further submits that independent Claim 39 (and all associated dependent claims) is allowable for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to Claim 17 and for the more detailed features presented in Claim 39.

NEW CLAIMS

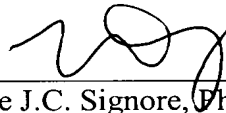
Applicant has added new Claims 47-50 to set forth the invention in a different scope and respectfully submits that the new claims find non-limiting support in the disclosure as originally filed. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that Claims 47-50 are allowable for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to Claim 17 and for the more detailed features presented by the new claims.

CONCLUSION

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application, including Claims 17-20, 22-26, 28-37, 39-40, 42-44, and 47-50, is patentably distinguished over the cited art and is in condition for allowance. Such an allowance is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Philippe J.C. Signore, Ph.D.
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 43,922

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)

Brian R. Epstein
Registration No. 60,329